Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2009

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Docket No.: 4633-0189PUS1

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Currently Amended) A medical material comprising:
- a base material,
- a <u>diamond-like carbon film</u> biocompatible component grafted to a surface of a diamond-like carbon film, and said diamond like film is formed on a surface of [[a]] <u>said</u> base material, and
- a biocompatible component covalently bonded to a surface of the diamond-like carbon film,

wherein said biocompatible component is a polymer of vinyl monomers, vinylidene monomers, vinylene monomers or cyclic vinylene monomers.

- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (**Previously Presented**) The medical material of claim 2, wherein the biocompatible component is a polymer containing fluorine.

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5-7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) The medical material of claim 2, wherein the biocompatible component

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contains at least one functional group selected from a group consisting of an ethylene oxide

group, a hydroxy group, a phosphate group, an amino group, an amido group, a

phosphorylcholine group, a sulfone group, and a carboxyl group.

9. (Original) The medical material of claim 2, wherein an intermediate layer is provided

between the base material and the diamond-like carbon film to improve adhesion between the

base material and the diamond-like carbon film.

10. (Original) The medical material of claim 9, wherein the intermediate layer is an

amorphous film containing silicon and carbon as primary constituents.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The medical material of claim 2, wherein the base material is

a metal material, ceramic material, or macromolecular material, or a complex thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) A medical instrument formed by using the medical material

of claim 2.

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14. (**Original**) The medical instrument of claim 13, wherein the medical instrument is a medical instrument which is to be embedded in a living body.

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15. (**Original**) The medical instrument of claim 14, wherein the medical instrument is a catheter, guide wire, stent, artificial cardiovalvular membrane, or artificial joint.

## 16-27. (Canceled)

- 28. (**Previously Presented**) The medical material of claim 2, wherein the biocompatible component is a polymer of hydrophilic 2-hydroxypropyl methacryl amide.
- 29. (New) The medical material of claim 2, wherein the biocompatible component is covalently bonded via a hydroxy group on the surface of the diamond-like carbon film.
  - 30. (New) The medical material of claim 2, wherein

the biocompatible component is a polymer chain, and

one end of the chain polymer is covalently bonded to the surface of the diamond-like carbon film.

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